

THE CHARLOTTE MASON COLLEGE, AMBLESIDE.

(Formerly "HOUSE OF EDUCATION").

Founder and First Principal, 1892-1923:

MISS CHARLOTTE M. MASON.

Principal, 1923-1934:

MISS E. A. PARISH.*



Principal:

MISS J. VAN STRAUBENZEE*

Vice-Principal:

MISS M. HARDCASTLE*

Secretary:

MISS V. HOPPER

Teaching Staff:

Resident:

MADemoiselle CHAUDOUET

MISS K. HUGMAN*

MISS L. JOSS*

MISS K. MINN*

MISS O. TURTON, B.A.

Visiting:

MISS G. BELL*

THE HON. OLIVE BUCKLEY, D.M.,
M.R.C.P.

MISS A. C. DRURY*

A. F. QUARMBY, Esq., M.D.,
(Medical Officer).

Examiner:

W. G. DE BURGH, Esq., M.A., Professor Emeritus of Philosophy,
Reading University.

* Charlotte Mason College.

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The Ambleside Council
(The Governing Body of the Charlotte Mason College and
Practising School and of the Parents' Union School).

Chairman : The Lady Helen Cassel.

Members : The Rev. Canon H. Costley-White, D.D. (late Headmaster of Westminster School).

Miss N. C. Craig, Headmistress, Christ's Hospital, Hertford.

Mrs. Esslemont, O.B.E., Principal, Overstone P.N.E.U. School, Northamptonshire.

The Hon. Mrs. Franklin, Hon. Secretary, P.N.E.U.

Michael Franklin, Esq.

Theodore Fyfe, Esq., F.R.I.B.A.

Mrs. Gibson, J.P.

Miss B. M. Goode, Principal, Burgess Hill P.N.E.U. School.

*The Lord Alastair Graham, President of the P.N.E.U.

H. W. Household, Esq., (late Secretary of Education for Gloucestershire).

Miss E. Kitching, Director, Parents' Union School.

Mrs. Mansel.

Miss E. A. Parish, Principal, House of Education, 1923-1934.

*Miss R. A. Pennethorne, Organising Secretary, P.N.E.U.

Major P. C. Petrie, D.S.O., M.C.

H. W. Plumptre, Esq.

V. W. G. Ranger, Esq.

Mrs. Sommaruga

Miss D. Steinthal

Miss H. E. Wix, Headmistress, Overstone P.N.E.U. School, Northamptonshire.

Secretary : Miss M. E. Norry.

* Ex-officio.

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*Man cannot propose a higher or holier object
for his study than Education.—PLATO.*

The Charlotte Mason College offers a special training to those who intend to devote themselves to the upbringing of children. In this great work definite impulse and direction as well as knowledge and power are needed. These are to be found in the philosophy of education set forth by Charlotte M. Mason. She believed that every rightly educated person should have a live mind, a nature ordered by the discipline of habit and the power to use circumstances and opportunities creatively and wisely. "Education is an atmosphere, a discipline, a life." The Parents' National Educational Union, The Charlotte Mason College and The Parents' Union School find their unity and their strength in this belief.

Course of Study.

The aim of education presented to the students is to produce a human being at his best — physically, mentally, morally and spiritually, quickened by religion and with some knowledge of nature, art, literature and manual work.

The principal study is education, its methods, principles and history. Psychology, in its true sense — the study of the mind — is considered in close connection with Charlotte Mason's thought.

In all the students' other work it is remembered that "children make large demands on us. We owe it to them to initiate an immense number of interests . . . Life should be all *living*, not merely a tedious passing of time, not all doing, or all feeling or all thinking — the strain would be too great — but all living; that is, we should be in touch wherever we go, whatever we hear, whatever we see, with some manner of vital interest. The question is not — how much does the youth *know* when he has finished his education — but how much does he *care* and about how many orders of things does he care" (*School Education*, C. M. Mason). In order to help children to care deeply and to care widely, the students seek knowledge in many directions. At the same time they are trained to observe the best methods of teaching in each subject.

With these principles in view the course includes:—

Two modern languages, Latin, Elementary Greek.

English, Literature and language.

Arithmetic and Mathematics.

Nature Study coupled with such scientific studies as can best help towards an outdoor knowledge of flowers, birds, animals, stars, rocks, and the countryside.

Art, Music, Handicrafts, Reading aloud, Speaking.

Drill, Games, Dancing.

Care of Health, Physiology.

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The afternoons are spent out of doors. The neighbourhood provides a great variety of interests; from the delight of discovering these and of exploring the hillside comes the power to interest children in flowers, birds, and outdoor things. The students are trained to be responsible and resourceful in the matter of children's recreations, indoor and out. Tennis, cricket and rounders, hockey and netball are played.

During the Summer holidays students are expected (1) to study French in France in their Junior Year, (2) to take probationary posts in their Senior Year.

Practice in Teaching.

Fairfield is the Practising School of the Charlotte Mason College. It holds twenty-four boarders, aged 9—18, and a number of small children who come for morning lessons. Here the students carry out the programmes of the Parents' Union School, taking charge of one form for a week at a time. According to their ability, they have practice in teaching all subjects to children of various ages. Forms I.—VI. They hold responsibility under the Head Mistress and the Matron. Their teaching work is supervised and supplemented by the College Staff. [For details of Fairfield, see the separate prospectus.]

Help and criticism are given during the weeks of School practice. Methods of teaching are discussed in full session of the College at the weekly Criticism Lessons.

It can sometimes be arranged that students who so desire shall spend a period of time after their training in one of the larger P.N.E.U. Schools in order to gain further experience. This arrangement is entirely optional and is upon an "au pair" basis.

The Charlotte Mason College Certificate.

The Final examination takes place in December. Students are examined in the Theory and Practice of Education. Their teaching power is tested by a lesson given before the Inspector. In awarding a Certificate the whole two years' record is taken into account, for the Certificate attests not only a knowledge of educational principles and skill in teaching, but also a love of children and a power of serious effort in their behalf. The student must be able to train children in orderly habits of mind and body, working towards the fullest development of their powers and personality.

The Certificate testifies that:—

- (1). The student has definite knowledge of the principles and methods of Charlotte Mason and that she is in touch with the whole work of the Parents' National Educational Union.
- (2). The student possesses certain general qualifications necessary in those who teach in the Parents' Union School.
- (3). The student recognises that the whole work of training and teaching children is a service to God.

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Candidates for Admission must have received a sound education and must pass the entrance examination, which takes the form of a probationary week, during which the candidate is a guest of the College, taking part in its ordinary activities. Candidates are examined orally and in short written papers. This examination is usually held during the third week in January. Those who are successful in gaining places begin the work of the Spring term without delay.

Most of the students who enter the College have passed their matriculation or its equivalent, but this is not insisted upon, as some candidates who have not this qualification prove themselves to be suitable for the training.

Students are not admitted under 18 years of age, or for less than two years.

A special one year's course is arranged for University graduates. A diploma is granted at the end of this course, which begins in September. The College Certificate can only be awarded to those who have taken the full two years' course.

Vacations. There is a short break at Easter and a long vacation in the Summer in order to give time for visits to France or for probationary posts. At Christmas there is a four weeks' holiday.

The Accommodation in the College allows for fifty students. The house, Scale How, is well situated. It stands high; the open hillsides are seen from all its windows, yet it is sheltered partly by trees and partly by the natural rise of the ground. In the garden and grounds are various lecture rooms and other buildings necessary for the many activities of the College.

Fees (£120 per annum) are paid in advance by instalments of £40 a term. This sum covers board, lodging and training, as well as the costs of the more important books used, stationery, materials and tools for handicrafts and examination fees. It does not include (1) personal laundry, (2) a medical fee of 7/6 a term. The life which the students lead is a simple one, and the incidental expenses are usually very small.

If owing to ill-health or for other reasons a student is unable to complete the full year, half the fees for the remaining period will be charged.

For form of application, etc., apply to

The Secretary,

CHARLOTTE MASON COLLEGE,

AMBLESIDE,

WESTMORLAND.

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The Future Work of the Students.

The field of work open to the Charlotte Mason trained teachers is varied. They are members of the Parents' National Educational Union and their services are in demand by P.N.E.U. parents and heads of schools in many parts of the world. They are offered posts in families and schools. They also teach small groups of children whose parents combine to engage a teacher. The fact that they belong to a Union composed of thoughtful men and women with a common aim in view gives a stability to their life and work which is most valuable. They command good salaries and throughout their career they receive help in finding posts both from the College and also from the P.N.E.U. Office, 26, Victoria St., London. On completing her training every student must pay a fee of £5 to the P.N.E.U. This entitles her to Life membership of the Union and to the *Parents' Review* for three years.

The work of the teachers trained at the Charlotte Mason College lies with children who are members of the Parents' Union School, aged $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 17. There is, however, a small number of students whose gifts lie with younger children needing occupations rather than lessons. Posts where the children are under $5\frac{1}{2}$ usually give less salary and shorter holidays, but they offer exceedingly interesting work.

Ambleside Old Students Endowment and Pension Scheme.

This is an Insurance Scheme especially drawn up to suit the needs of ex-students of the College, all of whom are advised to join it at their earliest opportunity.

Full particulars can be obtained from:—Messrs. A. B. Wills & Co., Ltd., 1, Royal Exchange Avenue, London, E.C.3.

Notes for Employers.

Parents and Heads of Schools employing teachers trained at the Charlotte Mason College become members of the Parents' National Educational Union. Their children are members of the Parents' Union School. The children of this school are scattered all over the world, but they share the zest and the sense of comradeship that come from following the same work and using the same books. Programmes of work and examination papers are sent out from Ambleside each term. The pupils' work is examined and reported upon twice a year. Full particulars of the P.U.S. may be obtained from Miss Kitching, Director Parents' Union School, Ambleside, Westmorland; particulars of the P.N.E.U. from the Secretary, P.N.E.U. Office, 26, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.

A minimum of ten weeks' holiday in the year is usual, but this can be according to arrangement. A long Summer holiday is sometimes difficult to arrange and it is possible for parents to engage a student in training to take over holiday duty.

There are no rules and regulations concerning duties, but employers are asked to remember that the work of teaching suffers unless time is allowed daily for preparation of lessons and for recreation.

It is usual to grant one free half-day each week.

Salaries are paid by the term and it is necessary to notify the ending of an engagement a term in advance.

National Health Insurance and Unemployment Insurance are both compulsory by law.

Parents and Heads of Schools requiring a trained student should apply to The Principal, Charlotte Mason College, Ambleside, Westmorland; or to The Secretary, P.N.E.U. Office, 26, Victoria Street, London.

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Parents' National Educational Union.

Founded 1888. Incorporated 1921.

Founder—Charlotte M. Mason.

President—Lord Alastair Graham.

Hon. President—Ishbel, Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair, G.B.E.

Chairman of the Executive Committee—The Very Rev. the Dean of St. Albans.

Hon. Treasurer—Captain Archibald Campbell.

Hon. Secretary—The Hon. Mrs. Franklin.

General Secretary—Miss Whyte.

Organising Secretary—Miss Pennethorne.

Central Office—26, Victoria Street, S.W.1.

Pamphlets giving full particulars of the work of the Union, and the *Parents' Review* may be obtained from the Secretary, 26, Victoria Street, S.W. 1, to whom subscriptions and communications concerning membership of the P.N.E.U. should be sent.